

## GREETINGS FROM COOLIDGE SCHOOL

November 18, 2013

[www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/schools/coolidge](http://www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/schools/coolidge)

Dear Families,

Thanks to Chair Melissa Pratt and her dedicated crew of parent volunteers for their efforts during our Shopping Spectacular last week. I know that a lot of work happened “behind the scenes” in contacting and booking vendors, taping off various areas in the building, responding to specific requests and organizing donations for the raffle. I can personally attest to the hours spent at Coolidge on Friday evening in hopes that all our participants (shoppers and vendors alike) enjoyed their time with us.

“Effort” is also a topic Coolidge teachers have been raising with students in our classrooms as well. We define effort as “trying hard” and we emphasize its importance because unlike skill, trying hard is something every child can control. We are also stressing effort because research suggests it plays a vital part in future success. Click this link if you are interested in learning more:

[http://alumni.stanford.edu/get/page/magazine/article/?article\\_id=32124](http://alumni.stanford.edu/get/page/magazine/article/?article_id=32124)

Please keep this information in mind as you review your child’s report card. Our aim is that we see in our students a commitment to consistent trying. Every grade devotes a section of the report card to this important habit of mind. After the first trimester, we will begin celebrating and acknowledging those students who demonstrate consistent effort in Trimesters 2 and 3. Our goal is that with support at home and at school every student will show increased ability to try hard over time.

Sincerely,



Amy Clouter  
*Principal*

## IMPORTANT DATES:

**November 19**

**Author Melissa Stewart visits Grades 3 & 4  
PTO Meeting, 7 pm**

November 21

Grade 4 concert, 6:30 pm, Coolidge Cafeteria

**November 27, 28, 29**

**No school; Thanksgiving break**

December 2 – 6

Gingerbread Shop

**December 9**

**Report Cards go home**

December 20

Snowflake Festival

**12/23 – January 1 2014**

**No School – December break**

January 2, 2014

Return to school

**News from the Nurse:** November is National Diabetes Awareness Month.

Nearly 26 million children and adults in America have Type 1 Diabetes.

As a school community member, I am dedicated to the well being of our students and staff and wanted to share with you the warning signs/symptoms of diabetes. Behavior(s) a child may be exhibiting at home or school that could indicate undiagnosed diabetes:

- Frequent trips to the bathroom (especially in close sequence)
- Unquenchable thirst
- Irritability
- Unusually tired
- Weight loss; thin appearing

Many of these symptoms can be related to illnesses that are not associated with diabetes, including the flu. There should be NO FEVER with Diabetes. This is a critical factor in differentiating between the flu. Also urinating at night or wetting the bed is an important sign to watch and follow up on. Only a healthcare professional can provide appropriated diagnostic tests and treatments.

For more information about Diabetes, log on to:

[www.diabetes.org](http://www.diabetes.org)

[www.jdrf.org](http://www.jdrf.org)

[www.joslin.org](http://www.joslin.org)

[www.JBWfund.org](http://www.JBWfund.org)

Thank you,  
Katie Zimmermann

**FYI**

1. Thank you for the terrific response to our bulletin board in the main hall. The School Council is gratified to see how many parents are willing to share information about their heritage with our students! And we're adding a second sign up sheet, too. If you have not yet been in to mark where your family calls "home" on our map, please stop in soon.

2. Parents (and even extended family!) are welcome to visit with our students during lunch. Please do not bring younger siblings out to recess, though- if your child is not yet in Kindergarten, s/he should not be on our playground with the older children.